

Application No.: 09/369,803
Docket No.: AD 6643 US NA.

Page 2

B2
21.5 (amended) An engine comprising:
a humidifying air induction or supply system comprising:
an air inlet;
a water reservoir;
a nonporous hydrophilic membrane surface, which is integral to both said air inlet and said water reservoir and interfaces with both said water reservoir and said air inlet; and
a hood arranged to regulate an area of said nonporous hydrophilic membrane surface.

REMOVAL OF INVENTOR

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.48(b), please delete Mark Elden Schuchardt as a joint inventor in this application. As a result of a requirement for restriction, Claims 15 - 21 have been cancelled and thus, Mr. Schuchardt's invention is no longer being claimed in the instant application. Authorization for payment of the appropriate fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(l) by deduction from deposit account no. 04-1928 is hereby granted.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 6, 11, 24, 27, and 32 are now pending, with claims 3, 6, 11, 24, and 27 being independent.

Claims 15-21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28-31, and 33-35 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Turning now to the Office Action dated February 26, 2002:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of Claims 3, 6, and 11.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claims 24, 27, and 32 would be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 24 and 27 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of the base claims from which each previously depended (claim 32 depends from claim 27 and therefore has not been amended); the scope of each of